

REMARKS

The claims are claims 1 to 14 and 19 to 27.

The application has been amended at many locations to correct minor errors and to present uniform language throughout.

Claims 1, 8, 15, 19 and 25 have been amended. Claims 15 to 18 are canceled. Claims 1, 8, 15, 19 and 25 were amended to distinguish over the reference.

Claims 1 to 11, 14, 19, and 21 to 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shoobe et al U.S. Patent No. 6,725,310.

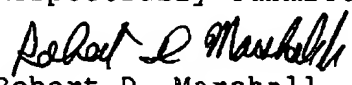
Claims 1, 8, 15, 19 and 25 recite subject matter not anticipated by Shoobe et al. Claim 1 recites the controller is configured "to detect whether the input/output (I/O) bridge device is connected to a docking station, to route signals from the parallel input port to the serial output port if the input/output (I/O) bridge device is connected to a docking station; and to route signals from the parallel input port to the at least one of the parallel output if the input/output (I/O) bridge device is not connected to a docking station." Claims 8 and 19 each recite the LPC is adapted "to detect whether the portable computer is coupled to a docking station via the docking connector, to route data transmissions from the I/O bus to the I/O ports if the portable computer is not coupled to a docking station via the docking connector, and to route data transmissions from the I/O bus to the docking connector if the portable computer is coupled to a docking station via the docking connector." Claim 25 recites "determining to route data transmissions from the I/O bus to the legacy ports if the portable computer is not connected to the docking station via the docking connector, determining to route data transmissions from the I/O but to the docking connector if the portable computer is connected to the docking station via the docking connector" and

routing data based upon this determination. Shoobe et al fails to teach this alternative operation of the legacy ports and the serial port based upon whether the portable computer is docked or undocked. Accordingly, claims 1, 8, 19 and 25 are allowable over Shoobe et al.

The Applicants respectfully submit that all the present claims are allowable for the reasons set forth above. Therefore early reconsideration and advance to issue are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or other correspondence regarding this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney at the below listed telephone number and address to facilitate prosecution.

Texas Instruments Incorporated
P.O. Box 655474 M/S 3999
Dallas, Texas 75265
(972) 917-5290
Fax: (972) 917-4418

Respectfully submitted,

Robert D. Marshall, Jr.
Reg. No. 28,527